

TESTIMONY ON: SB457, SB738 AND SB874 Acts Considering the Regionalization of Public School Districts

Adam N. Grippo Elected member of the Cheshire Board of Education February 28, 2019

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I write this testimony to voice my strong opposition to SB457, SB738 and SB874. The Cheshire public school system is the pride of our town and a strong unifying force of our culture and town identity. Any forced or coerced regionalization, via ECS funding restrictions, school capital rehabilitation grants or other means is unconscionable.

Cheshire is the 29th best school system in the state and Cheshire High School is one of the best 500 public schools in America. The desire to improve failing urban schools is a noble one and all children should have the opportunity to learn in a safe environment. But the notion that high performing schools should be destroyed in the name of equality is misguided and wrong. Cheshire should not be extorted into giving up its shining achievement in the name of equity nor should we be compelled to do so by the slow restriction of State's purse strings. I implore you to kill these bills.

Adam N. Grippo
Cheshire Board of Education